

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

David L. Brock, et al.

Serial No.: 10/010,150

Filed: November 16, 2001

For: FLEXIBLE INSTRUMENT

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) **Group Art Unit: 3733**

)
) **Confirmation No. : 9975**

)
) **Examiner: Philogene, Pedro**

RESPONSE AFTER FINAL

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Washington, D.C. 20231

Response under 37 CFR 1.116
Expedited Procedure
Examining Group

Dear Sir:

This letter is responsive to the Final Office Action, dated April 24, 2006. Claims 1-102, which have not been amended, remain pending in this application. Claims 1-84 and 95-102 have been allowed, claims 85 and 89-91 stand rejected, and claims 86-88 and 92-94 has been found to recite patentable subject matter, but stand objected to as depending from rejected base claims. Based on the following remarks, reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted to the Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below via the USPTO EFS-Web filing system.

6/26/06
Date of Deposit

J. L. Lee
Jocelyn L. Lee